

WEATHER
March 27, 1996
THE JERUSALEM POST TRAVELER TODAY

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Mordechai, Sharon big winners in Likud

SARAH HONIG
YITZHAK Mordechai founded all the pollsters and came out on top of the heap in the Likud primaries, followed by MK Ariel Sharon, regarded as the true big winner in terms of his political power play.

Amir sentenced to life for Rabin murder

RAINE MARCUS
AN unrepentant Yigal Amir was convicted of the murder of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.
Judges Edmond Levy, Oded Mudrich, and Saviona Rotlevy handed down a life sentence for the murder, plus a consecutive six-year sentence for aggravated assault on Rabin's bodyguard Yoram Rubinfeld, who was wounded in the shoulder by a bullet fired by Amir.



Yigal Amir awaits his sentencing in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. (Gideon Markowicz/PPA)

Justice has been done - and been seen

AND now, let it be known that one Yigal Amir, with malice aforethought, did kill one Yitzhak Rabin, a well-loved leader of a much bewildered nation.
Now let it be known. Not before. For even if on our own eyes saw, we saw nothing until the law saw. It has now seen. Let the name of the law be praised.

COMMENT
YORAM SHACHAR
but to the vast majority of Israelis, including some close colleagues in legal academia, let alone the proverbial taxi driver.
Too many of my friends, neighbors, and relatives wanted to see justice too soon. Too many wanted it without listening. Too many wanted justice to play God. Justice refused. Let her name be praised.

GSS prevented seven suicide attacks in '95

THE GSS prevented seven attempted suicide attacks and five attempts to enter Israel with car bombs during 1995. This was disclosed yesterday at the hearing of a petition to the High Court of Justice to ban GSS agents from using excessive force against Hamas member Ziad Gazal.
According to the information, the GSS also prevented seven murders, 10 kidnappings of soldiers and civilians, seven shootings, an attempt to hijack a bus, attempts to lay seven explosive charges, and additional terrorist attacks in 1995.

Shamgar Commission to present report today

BILL HUTMAN
THE Shamgar Commission will probably recommend disciplinary action be taken against the seven General Security Service and police officers it investigated during its inquiry into the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin. The commission's final report is to be presented to the government today.

Shekel drops 1.29% against dollar, now 3.12

THE shekel depreciated by 1.29 percent toward the US dollar yesterday, settling at a seven-week high of 3.128 to the dollar. Combined with its decline during the previous trading day, the shekel has depreciated by 1.5%.
Against the Bank of Israel's basket of currencies, the shekel settled at 3.5305, 1.36% weaker than the previous day.

Hijackers give up after forcing plane to Libya

CAIRO (AP) - Three Saudi hijackers surrendered yesterday after forcing an Egypt Air jetliner with 152 passengers and crew members to land in Tobruk, Libya. They had demanded a meeting with the leaders of Libya, Egypt, and the US.
"they said ... they had a message from God to [Muammar] Gaddafi, [Bill] Clinton and President [Hosni] Mubarak and they wanted to lift the closure of the Palestinians," Prime Minister Kamal Ganzoury said.

'Anti-terror funds for Israel are a non starter'

HILLEL KUTTNER
WASHINGTON
HOUSE Foreign Operations Subcommittee chairman Sonny Callahan yesterday told Secretary of State Warren Christopher that the administration must cease promising additional foreign aid to the Middle East.
Callahan, a Republican from Alabama, said he did not support the administration's decision last

Shamgar Commission to present report today

such recommendations remain unclear. Karmi Gillon, who headed the GSS at the time of the assassination, has already resigned, as has the head of the GSS's Protection Department.
The four other GSS officers implicated were suspended from their posts following the internal GSS inquiry into the assassination. Their futures at the GSS will be determined by the report.
Asst.-Cmdr. Ya'acov Shoval, the Yarkoo District police chief, was not suspended by Insp.-Gen.

Shamgar Commission to present report today

Assaf Hefetz, despite the commission's warning letter that held him responsible for not removing unauthorized people from the area where Rabin was shot.
The internal police investigation found no wrongdoing on the part of Shoval or any other police officer, so Hefetz decided to wait for the commission's final report before deciding what action, if any, to take against him.
The expected recommendations on operational and structural changes in the GSS and police will probably have little real impact, as (Continued on Page 9)



Pick this year's NCAA Basketball Champion and win a FREE evening for two at The Wingate Golf Instruction Center and Driving Range at The Wingate Institute. See Sports page for details.

BEZEQ, The Israel Telecommunications Corp. Ltd. Tender No. 04/96/070/0 Modems with HDSL Technology. The following general conditions apply: 1. Pre-conditions: a. Parties submitting bids must comply with all laws, including the requirement to keep account books, be an authorized trader, hold valid licenses to trade, and comply with all relevant standard specifications. b. Willingness to provide a guarantee, as explained in the tender documents. 2. The tender documents can be obtained from the Tenders and Ordering Department of the Purchasing Division, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem (Room 609) Tel. 02-395614/5, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday to Thursday. The tender documents will be provided upon submitting a receipt for payment of NIS 1,000, as follows: * In Israel, payment should be made into Bezeq's Postal Bank account, No. 5-311757. * Overseas suppliers should make payment into Bezeq's account No. 12-901-97833/64, at the Jerusalem main branch of Bank Leumi Leisrael. The fee for the tender documents is non-refundable. The receipt, with details of the bidding company and authorized trader's number, may be faxed to (972)-2-378113. Please phone afterwards (to above phone numbers) to confirm receipt of the fax. 3. Bids must be placed in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, no later than May 15, 1996, at 6 p.m. 4. No undertaking is made to accept the lowest or any bid, or to order the entire work from one source. Bids sent by fax or telegram will not be considered.

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Statistics to ponder

AS democratic societies have discovered the hard way, it is virtually impossible to combat organized terror groups while safeguarding the civil rights of their members. Constitutional provisions against incarceration without trial, prolonged interrogation without the presence of counsel, or the use of moderate physical pressure during interrogations are incompatible with an effective battle against dedicated fanatics fighting for a cause.

to foil: seven suicide bombings, five attempts to enter Israel with explosives-laden cars, 10 kidnappings of soldiers and civilians, seven murders, several assaults with firearms, an attempt to hijack a bus, various attempts to lay explosive charges, and other terrorist attacks.

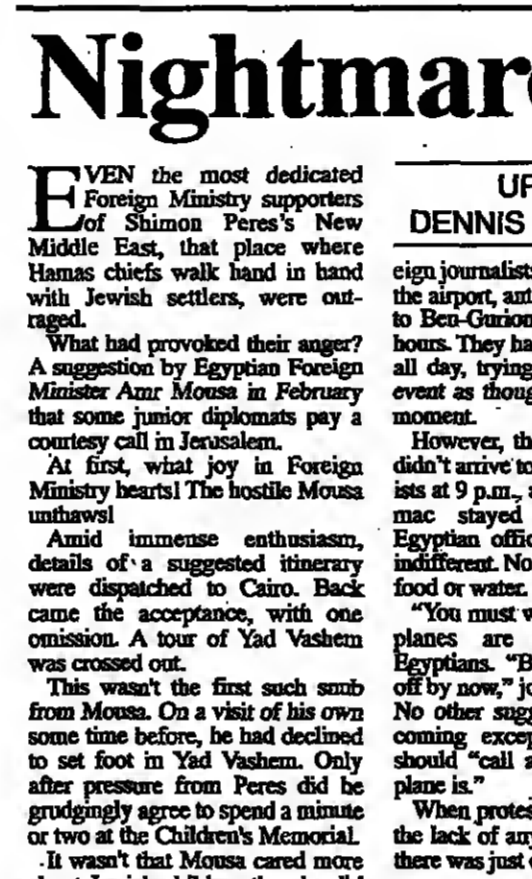
This is essentially the argument the General Security Service has presented to the High Court against the appeal of Hamas operative Ziad Gazal, who is demanding that no physical pressure be applied against him during his interrogation.

In assessing the Oslo process, the fact of this war must be taken into account, regardless of how many casualties the terrorists manage to inflict. The country cannot forever depend on the security services to prevent disaster, if for no other reason than that no such service can have a flawless record.

The people know best

THE first thing which comes to mind on reading the results of the primary elections in the major political parties is a witticism by one of Israel's leading journalists, Nahum Barnea. Israelis are a strange people, he said. They tell the truth to pollsters, but when they get into that voting booth, they lie.

All this may be true, but such charges can easily be made against democratic elections in general. Primary elections extend the democratic system to cover all stages of the election process by letting the rank-and-file rather than committees in "smoke-filled rooms" determine who the party candidates will be.



Nightmare in Sharm

EVEN the most dedicated Foreign Ministry supporters of Shimon Peres's New Middle East, that place where Hamas chiefs walk hand in hand with Jewish settlers, were outraged.

URI DAN DENNIS EISENBERG
A suggestion by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa in February that some junior diplomats pay a courtesy call in Jerusalem.

asleep on the floor. We've been trapped here by Egyptian malice. Since we cannot escape, we're about to start drilling for water and intend to set up a West-Bank-style settlement here at the airport.

It was a relatively small act of malice. No one suffered permanent injury. But it underlined a much deeper malaise

BY NOW even the most optimistic left-wingers present - including Abie Nathan, daddy of them all - were irritable and tired. Egyptian suggestions that Arafat was "to blame" became more pronounced as the night wore on.

With reactions like these 18 years after the declaration of peace with Israel, one wonders how anyone can still harbor any illusions about Egyptian sincerity. One need hardly detail the way Egyptian forces, armed to the teeth, carry out periodic complex military exercises in crossing the Suez Canal via the vast tunnels that have been built there.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PALESTINIAN INTELLECTUALS
Sir, - We, a group of Palestinian intellectuals, have witnessed the events of violence and killings of the last few days with feelings of outrage and disgust. We reject any attempt to impose upon the Palestinian people a bloody and violent agenda, which goes totally against the efforts and aspirations of our people to live in freedom, peace and security.

ARAFAT AND HAMAS
Sir, - I come to Israel several times a year to visit my daughter and her family and I am appalled by what I have seen happening here over the last few years. The terrorist atrocities are certainly bad enough, but what makes them worse is the government's response (or lack of it) to the succession of these heinous attacks.

POLLS
Sir, - In your issue of March 8, I read with interest your front-page headline claiming, "Polls give Netanyahu slight lead." In your report, you give readers information about the latest election polls, quoting Yehuda Aharoni's Mita Tzema, the Smith poll and the Ma'ariv Gallup poll. About the latter, you state that "a Gallup poll to appear today in Ma'ariv shows Netanyahu ahead by 2%."

CREEP
Sir, - Why do you always print a picture of this terrible creep, Yigal Amir, with his terrible grin? Is it not enough that you write about him? Do you want to turn him into a celebrity?
Haifa. E. STEINER-COHEN

POSTSCRIPT

A FAMOUS Moscow psychic and hypnotist who lost his seat in parliament is threatening to use his psychic powers to render impotent anyone who tries to evict him from his government apartment.

A FRENCH judge ruled on Monday that workers may go to the lavatory without needing their employer's permission.

A MALAYSIAN municipality governed by an Islamic party has ordered all supermarkets to set up separate payment counters for men and women.

Working it out

ESTHER HERTZOG

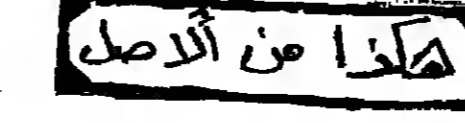
THE government, seemingly against its will, gave women - and their families - the gift of the decade recently when the law mandating equal pay in the workplace passed its second and third readings.

BACK IN the early 1980s, economist and employment expert Dr. Linda Efroni found that the imbalance in earnings between men and women employed in the public sector could - differences in position, scale, experience and scope apart - be accounted for by an unequal allocation of benefits.

Today there are many employers in the public and private sectors who pay their male employees 50 percent or more above what their female employees earn for comparable work.

Women have been reluctant to believe the extent of wage discrimination against them

struggle to change the law, Finance Minister Shohat maintained uncompromising opposition to the vital amendment listing the salary elements to which the principle of equality should apply.

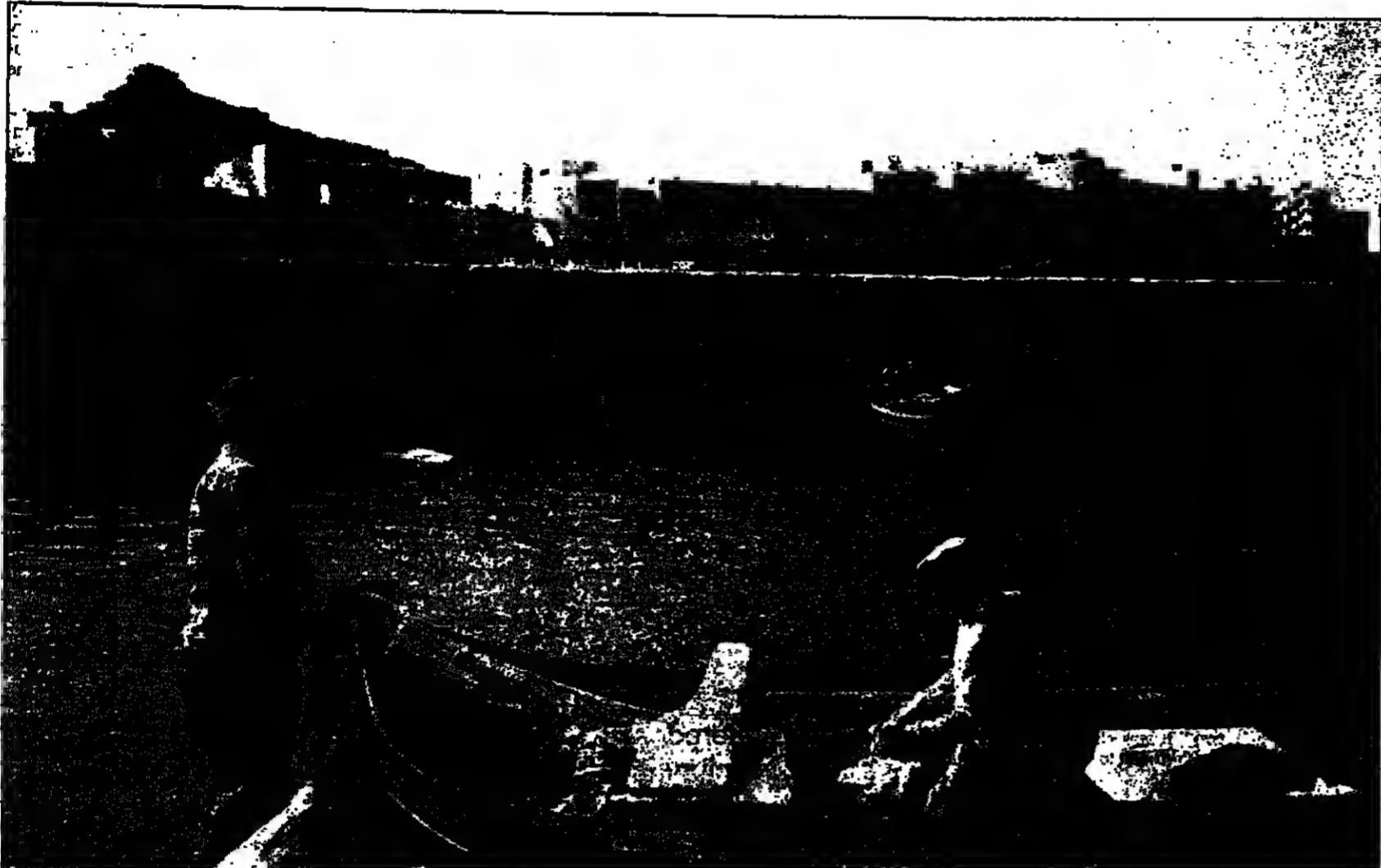


The Jerusalem Post
Working it out
ESTHER HERZOG

THE JERUSALEM POST

TRAVELER

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1996



Above: Fishermen fold their nets on brightly painted boats—or "Luzzu."
Far right: A charming passage—Citta Delta, in Gozo's "Old City," Malta.
Right: A vendor sells fish in the bustling Independence Square in Victoria—Gozo, Malta.



MALTA



History's Golden Crossroad

By Dorothy Storck

I first saw the Grand Harbour of Valletta a decade ago from the deck of a ship, just after dawn.

We were two days out of North Africa, sailing in gray seas. Tunisia lay behind us with its white wind and dusty palms, vaguely menacing, like a dream without color.

Somehow this island nation has managed to take bits from 5000 years of cross currents, invasions, and rude awakenings and turn it all into a mosaic of beauty and zest.

Malta, rising suddenly off the bow, made me reach for a sun shade. The harbor is a hit to the senses: Colonades the color of creme caramel, white yachts on azure water, steel tankers and crimson pilot boats. High over the fortified walls the spires of a Renaissance cathedral gleam with gold.

Out of an empty ocean comes this cosmos of bustle and beauty and business at hand—a magic harbor. Ulysses, it is written, lingered here for seven years, a willing captive in

Calypso's cave while Penelope knitted back home in Ithaca. One can understand.

That day, 10 years ago we sailed on. Last year, in early spring, I finally came back.

"Yalta?" a friend asked. "You're going to Yalta?"

Odd that some people who are so familiar with other parts of the Mediterranean—Italy, Greece, and the overtrammed French Riviera know so little of Malta.

Geographically, the five islands of Malta (the big island, also called Malta, rural Gozo, tiny Comino, and two unoccupied islands) lie in a direct sea path between Europe and Africa, 60 miles southwest of Sicily, 210 miles east of Africa.

Philosophically and culturally, Malta is a mix of 5,000 years of itinerant civilizations arriving, pausing, and moving on.

It is thought that stone-age man paddled over from what is now Sicily and erected temples to a goddess of fertility—a fetchingly plump goddess (actually known as "The Fat Lady") discreetly swathed in a fringed skirt. Amazingly, the remains of these temples—older than the pyramids—still stand in open fields and you can wander through them, finger their wall carvings, gaze at the stars through their open roofs.

Continued on page 4

Photos by Dorothy Storck

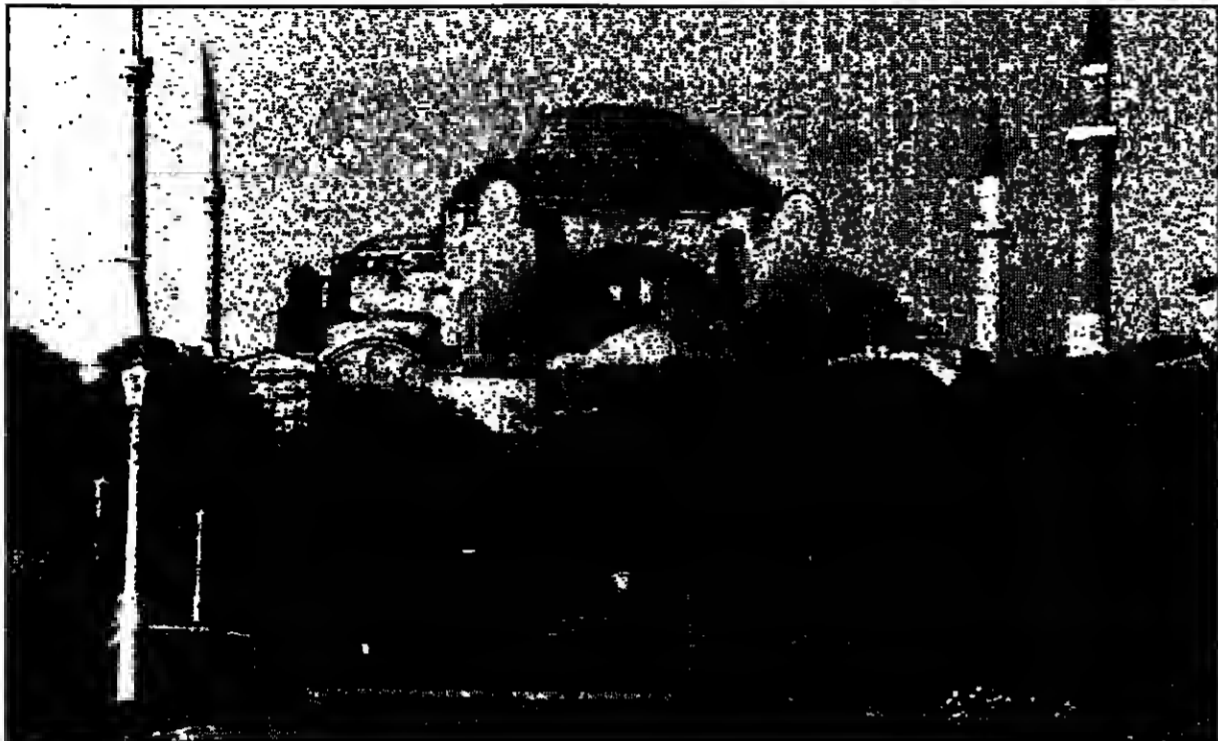
See Istanbul's Sights to Learn its History

By Glenda Winders
Copley News Service

Suppose it would be possible to visit the modern, bustling city of Istanbul and not even think about its history. The food alone is perfect—sun-ripened tomatoes, fresh olives, spicy lamb kebabs and sweet, outy baklava—is worth the journey. So is the sightseeing. This is where East literally meets West, with parts of the city lying on two continents, Europe and Asia, separated by the dazzling

in Rome and completed by Constantine I in 325. Originally, it was a venue for games (seating 100,000) until sporting competition became political rivalry and such activities had to be stopped. Later, it was used for chariot races and as a spot for displaying columns and statuary from throughout the Roman Empire.

Only three stadiums or hippodromes remain today. The most impressive is the obelisk of Theodosius, a monolith from Egypt that was first erected in the 15th century B.C. and brought to Constantinople in A.D. 390. Its hieroglyphic inscriptions depict the victories of an Egyptian pharaoh, and the carvings on the marble base tell the story of the monument's being brought to its new place and of the emperor's family watching the chariot races.



Once a Byzantine cathedral and later a mosque, Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey, is now a museum that honors both Christian and Islamic traditions.

blue waters of the Bosphorus.

The shopping is like nowhere else in the world. Handmade rugs, leather coats, mother-of-pearl game boards and gold bangles are available at the Covered Bazaar and on every street corner, as well as in upscale department stores. The stalls in the Spice Bazaar put the senses on overload with pungent herbs, bright strings of peppers and the aroma of freshly ground coffee.

Yet to ignore the city's rich history is to miss out completely on the layers of struggle and adventure that explain how this energetic metropolis came to be.

Legend has it that in the seventh century B.C. the Greek Megarian leader Byzas consulted the oracle at Delphi and was told to settle across from the "land of the blind ones." When he arrived at Chalcedon, on the Asian shore, he looked across the Bosphorus to the European side and marveled that earlier colonists must have been blind not to recognize the area's beauty and advantageous strategic position. He founded a city and named it Byzantium.

The city was colonized by the Greeks around 660 B.C. and was the site of numerous Persian invasions. In A.D. 196 it was captured by Septimius Severus and absorbed into the Holy Roman Empire. Constantine the Great rebuilt the city and renamed it Constantinople in 326. From that point it became a symbol of luxury and riches, a mixing point for what remained of the classical period and the Roman influence of the new Christian era.

Crusaders sacked the city in 1204, but Byzantium survived for 200 more years until it was overtaken by Ottomans and renamed Istanbul (according to some, from *Islambol*, meaning full of Muslims) in 1453. The Ottoman Empire lasted until World War I, but by the end of the 17th century it had begun to crumble, as many of its component states made other alliances or gained independence. The empire formally ended in 1918, and the modern republic was organized by a war hero, Mustafa Kemal, who was subsequently renamed Ataturk, father of Turks.

These vastly different cultural groups each left their stamp on Istanbul, and many of their palaces and monuments still stand today. Thus, to tour some of the city's attractions is to trace its rich heritage and colorful past. This sampling only scratches the surface, but it's a good place to start.

THE HIPPODROME

The construction of this type of stadium was started by Septimius Severus in 203 to resemble Circus Maximus

THE UNDERGROUND CISTERN

Plan to spend a few minutes in the Underground Cistern, a remarkable structure created by Constantine and restored by Justinian in 532 for storing the imperial water supply. Since practicality was the motivator for the construction, many of the 336 columns used to support the edifice were recycled from temples and government buildings. Two of them are supported by beautifully carved heads of Medusa—sideways and upside down.

TOPKAPI PALACE

This intriguing palace, built during the reign of Mehmet the Conqueror in the 1400s, sits within a walled complex on a hill overlooking the confluence of the Bosphorus, the Golden Horn and the Sea of Marmara. It served as the home of the Ottoman rulers until the 19th century, and today it contains several museums that house everything from jeweled treasures to sacred relics of Mohammed and the caliphate.

To Western visitors, the most fascinating and enlightening part of a tour is the harem. Guides explain that these quarters were not just for housing women who supplied the reigning sultan's pleasure. Rather, all the women, including his mother, his wives, their servants and their children, lived here companionably, guarded by eunuchs.

The decor here is a tribute to wealth. Walls are tiled, doors are made of mother-of-pearl and furniture is gilded and bejeweled. The ceremonial throne is made of solid gold.

DOLMABACHE PALACE

Sultan Abdulmeccid built this palace overlooking the Bosphorus in the 19th century, reportedly to compete with those in Europe, most notably Versailles. Unfortunately, he lavished so much state money on his expensive rococo appointments that he placed a severe strain on the treasury.

Still, a great deal of history has taken place here during the palace's relatively short existence. The first parliament convened here in 1877 and the first Turkish Historical Congress was held in 1932.

Ataturk, who had taken up residence in the harem area, died here November 10, 1938.

THE MILITARY MUSEUM

This newly refurbished museum provides the predictable display of weaponry and uniforms, but it offers some surprises that make it anything but ordinary. On one level is a display of richly embroidered and lavishly carpeted tents from Ottoman campaigns that makes these battles all but come to life.

The best part of a visit to this museum is the performance of the Janissary Band, the first marching military band in the world. In Ottoman times, these elite musicians played loud marching pieces that scared the enemy away and influenced composers from Beethoven to Mozart. Now they put on a lively and colorful performance for visitors daily at 3 p.m.

TROY

If time allows for only a day trip outside the city, the choices are many, but my vote is for Troy. Travelers familiar with Ephesus say the Roman ruins there are in much better condition than the Greek ones in Troy, but Troy is closer and is situated in the idyllic countryside around Canakkale, which is rich with legends and history.

Here the ceremonial temples, homes and protective walls of nine cities have been uncovered and labeled in an ongoing archaeological dig. And while the Trojan horse may exist only in stories, a wooden replica has been built on the site so that visitors can imagine what it would have been like to be a Greek soldier inside. Other famous tourists who have visited this site are Xerxes, Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar.

Canakkale and Troy are a four-hour bus trip from Istanbul or a short flight on Turkish Airlines. Flights only leave a few times a week, so check ahead for scheduling.

GALLIPOLI

Across the Dardanelles by ferry from Canakkale lie the battlefields of Gallipoli. Here, for as far as one can see, are cemeteries and memorials to the soldiers who fought in the World War I campaign in which the Ottoman army turned back the combined forces of the British Empire, including Australian, French and Italian Allies.

These hills overlooking the sea are now a national monument, the graves and trenches a graphic reminder of the futility and loss of war. Here, at Anzac Cove, named for the Australian and New Zealand forces, carved in stone, is Ataturk's message to the Allied soldiers who died in an attempt to defeat the Turks:

"Those heroes that shed their blood, you are now living in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours. You, the mothers who sent their sons from far away countries, wipe away

IF YOU GO

Prepare yourself

Read a good history of Turkey or a guidebook so you'll know what to look for as you trek through Istanbul and surrounding historical cities—and be able to recognize it when you get there. *Insight Guides: Turkey* (Houghton Mifflin) provides a brief, readable capsule of history and is a useful guidebook once you arrive. The *Med by Homer* is also fun to read in preparation for a visit to Troy.

If you're serious about seeing as many historical sites as possible but time is limited, a tour operator is your best planning bet. My trip was organized by Newport International Travel in Newport Beach, California, (909) 714/673-2500, whose owners are Turkish and know the history, culture and language. Once in Istanbul, they employ Turkish guides who must pass strict examinations to be licensed by the government. These people are knowledgeable—and can be a big help if you're shopping and trying to get a good price.

Getting There

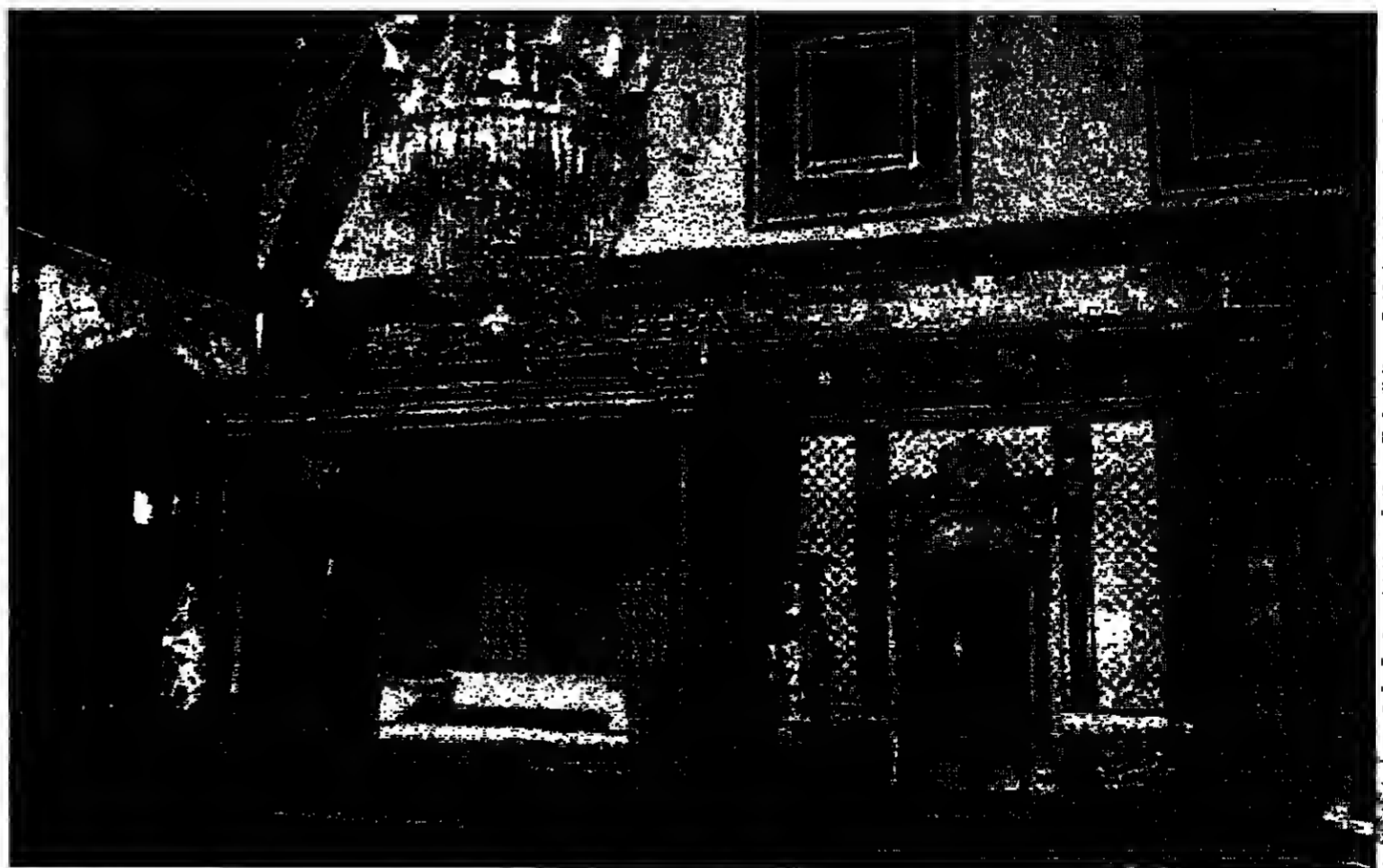
Most flights to Istanbul require going through a European gateway city. Lufthansa German Airlines offers many flights each week from U.S. cities by way of Düsseldorf, Munich or Frankfurt.

Where to Stay

Several major hotel chains, such as Hilton, Marriott and Holiday Inn, now operate hotels in Istanbul, and there are also many small, budget-conscious hotels throughout the city. I stayed at the Hyatt Regency, which proved to be a good choice for many reasons. It is located near lively Taksim Square and within walking distance of many of the sights you'll want to see. The helpful concierges will help you plan your day and arrange transportation. As an added bonus, the rooms here are designed to resemble the war tents of Ottoman soldiers—indeed, touch for the traveler in search of Istanbul's history.

your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well."

Glenda Winders is a Copley News Service editor and columnist.



This lounge in the harem area of Topkapi Palace in Istanbul, Turkey, is where a sultan might have once received an honored guest.

MAIDEN MINERVA

Swan Hellenic's 194-cabin Minerva will depart April 29 on its 15-day maiden voyage from Genoa, Italy. Charting a course in the eastern Mediterranean, the ship will call at Naples and Messina, Italy; Olympia, Athens, Delphi and Rhodes, Greece; and Ephesus and Pergamum, Turkey.

Minerva's accommodations vary from standard inside cabins to luxurious suites with private verandas. Fares for the voyage range from \$4,795 to \$9,545 per person, double occupancy. Airfare between London and the starting and ending ports, accommodations, all meals, shore excursions, gratuities and portage are included.

Following the inaugural cruise, the Minerva will sail to Northern Africa for The Romans in

Africa and Iberia for 'The Arts of Iberia' before returning to London for a series of cruises to Ireland and the Western Isles of Scotland. In July, the ship will embark on 12-day voyages to the Baltic countries. FYI: Classical Cruises & Tours, 132 East 70th Street, New York, New York 10021; (001) 212/517-7655.

SEEING SICILY

Travelers who want to explore Sicily's history and history can choose between two itineraries offered by Amelia Tours.

The 11-day 'Just Sicily' tour begins with four nights in Palermo, from which the group makes excursions to Monte Pellegrino, the Golden Basilica of Monreale, the seaside town of Cefalù, the Greek temple at Segesta and the Norman cap-

le city Erice. The group also spends two nights in Agrigento and three nights in the resort town of Taormina.

'Just Sicily' costs \$2,180 per person, including accommodations, most meals, motor coach transportation, guide services and airport transfers. The tour is limited to 24 participants. Departures are scheduled for May 29, Sept. 26 and Dec. 22.

'Noble Sicilian' is a 13-day journey that follows a similar route to 'Just Sicily,' but with more excursions. The group will visit the estates of Count Taormina for lunch and a tour of his winery. Limited to 16 participants, 'Noble Sicilian' is priced at \$3,150 per person. Departures are scheduled for June 2 and Oct. 18. FYI: Amelia Tours, (001) 516/579-1580.

PASSAGE TO INDIA

Orient Cruise Lines has a special two-for-one offer for its "Passage to India" itinerary, April 11-23 every year.

Departing from Singapore, the 800-passenger Marco Polo will call at Kuala Lumpur and Penang, Malaysia; Phuket, Thailand; Colombo, Sri Lanka; and Cochin and Goa, India. The package also includes two nights in Singapore and a three-night land package in Delhi, plus sightseeing tours of both cities.

The price for the first passenger is \$3,645; the second passenger travels for free. Both passengers must pay for port charges, air fare and air taxes. FYI: Orient Lines, (001) 954/527-8660.

Information provided by Copley News Service.

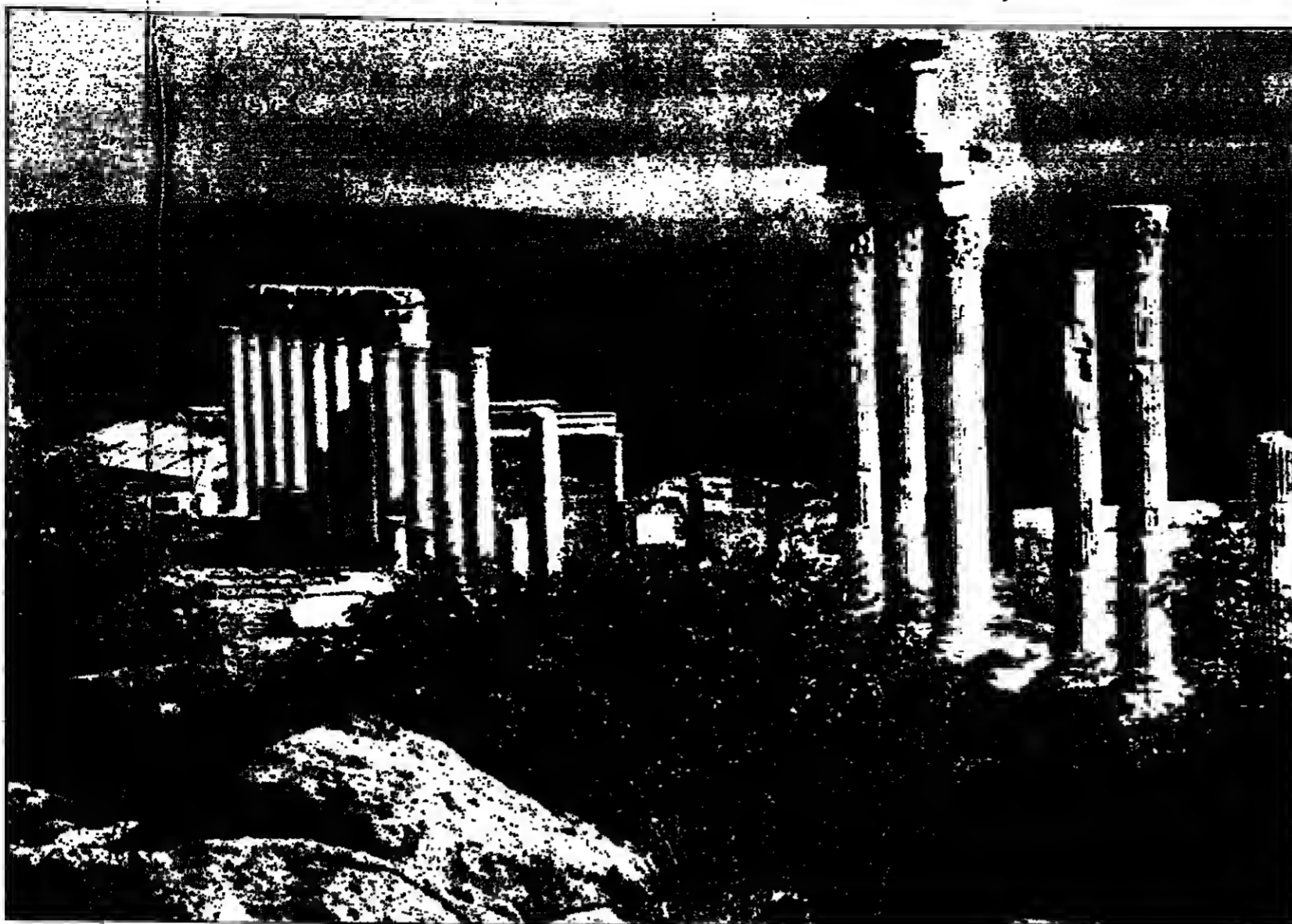
History

YOU GO

Prepare yourself

Getting There

Where is it?



Left: The ruins of the Greco-Roman Empire are everywhere.

Below: Since 2000 B.C., inhabitants have carved out homes in lunar-like Cappadocia



Photos by Lois Sotonoff

TURKEY'S BACK ROAD DELIGHTS

By Roberta Sotonoff

The only English this young Turk knew was, "Welcome to my country."

Friendliness, the kaleidoscope of sights, sounds and smells, the diversity of its people—Turkey is a treasure of all these things.

"Half of the visitors that come here arrive by cruise ship and visit only Istanbul and Ephesus," says Turkish Tourist Ministry Director, Mustafa Sıyahhan. "They do not really see what we are about."

Navigating the roads of Turkey is a real trip. It can be leisurely or expeditious. The highways are a panorama of the country. A BMW or Mercedes may pass you Fiat, but you will have to pass trucks, camels, cows, horses, sheep, three-wheeled carts, bikes and motorcycles.

These roads have always been important to wayfarers. Because of Turkey's strategic location bordering Asia and Europe, the Ottomans controlled trade routes like the Royal Road and the Silk Road. In fact, their dominance over these thoroughfares became an impetus for Europeans to find a water route to the East.

During these times, sultans offered merchants, along with their elephants and camels, free lodging for three nights at hani. Today's journeymen do not get the benefits of the modern day hani. They have to pay for their accommodations.

The modern European-style capital of Ankara is a good place to begin exploring Turkey. Start at Ankara's impressive Museum of Ancient Civilization. All of Turkey's museums are fascinating and informative, but this one chronicles history from 10,000 years ago to Greek and Roman times.

Turkey's history is diverse and Ankara is filled with interesting sites. For example, Atatürk's mausoleum in Ankara, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the father of modern-day Turkey, brought the country into the 20th century in 1923. He westernized it with secu-

lar and economic reforms like the banning of traditional fezzes, turbans, and veils. He replaced the Muslim calendar and Arabic script with the Gregorian calendar and Roman script.

Southwest of Ankara is Cappadocia, an eerie lunar-like complex. Since 2000 B.C., inhabitants have carved out homes in caves, volcanic tuffs and underground.

Friendliness, the kaleidoscope of sights, sounds and smells, the diversity of its people—Turkey is a treasure of all these things.

Derinkuyu, an eight-leveled underground city, resembles something from "Raiders of the Lost Ark." Its 10,000 Christian residents took refuge from the frequent attacks of marauding Arabs. They built 1,000 churches in the caves, decorated with beautiful frescoes that are found today at the Goreme Open Air Museum.

South of Cappadocia is the traditional city of Konya, with its red-tiled roofs and turquoise steeples. Gentlemen with bright green conical hats or scarf-clad women dressed in traditional black dresses are a familiar sight near the Mevlana Mezusu or the Alsedidin Tepesi. Konya was the home of the Mevlana, the Sufic mystic who founded the "Whirling Dervish" sect.

BARGAIN SHOPPING

From Konya, the rugged, mountainous roads south and west lead to the resort town of Antalya. Carpet, leather and jewelry shops line the hilly cob-

ble-stone streets.

Following the crooked streets down to the picturesque Mediterranean shore, we search for dinner. Selecting fresh fish from an outdoor display is a Turkish ritual. It is cooked to order while we watch the activity on the seashore.

After dinner we experience the jewelry and carpet conspiracy. A young man approaches.

"My father owns a rug store. Come and see. He will make you a good deal."

Show a glimmer of interest, and you will be whisked there as quickly as you can say, "Open Sesame." While imbibing the complementary drink, and being smothered with kindness, a carpet salesman displays an ability he must have inherited from Ali Baba. Carpets unroll so quickly, they seem to take flight.

The ruins of the Greco-Roman Empire are everywhere. There are remnants of cities such as Perge, Side, Aspendos, the 4,000-foot above sea-level city of Termessos, Aphrodisias, Kerapolis, Spardis, Pergamum—Asclepion, Troy, and Ephesus.

Ephesus, formerly the capital of Asia, is fabulous. Its Celsus Library once housed 12,000 scrolls. The daily life of its former 300,000 residents seems to seep out if its incredible marble structures and paved streets.

"This long row of toilets was a meeting place for nobility," explained a guide. "Slaves would warm them for their masters so they would not have to sit on

cold marble."

As incredible as these ruins is Istanbul. It lies in both Europe and Asia. From Camlica Hill, the highest point in Istanbul, there is a spectacular view of the city's hilly landscape. Dotted with mosques, palaces, museums, and monuments, it is surrounded by the



The ruins of the former capital of Asia, Ephesus.

Bosphorus, the Marmara Sea and the Golden Horn.

Once the hub of the Ottoman Empire, it would take more than a month to see the sights. The network of buildings at the Topkapi Palace is a full day's excursion. Its fabulous jewels, including the famous Topkapi dagger, is a bauble lover's dream.

The 4,000 shops of the Grand Bazaar has the best souvenir shopping. But the Spice Bazaar incorporates the real ambience of Istanbul. Odors rise from spice-laden barrels, while sights and sounds of a hodge-podge of cultures gorge your senses.

A Turkish bath is relaxing after shopping. Sitting nude on a stoop in an enormous marble domed room, one can only wonder, "What am I doing half-way around the world with only a towel?"

The Turkish massage is worth the wonder.

Turkey has so much to offer, it will put your brain on "circuit overload." It is also the bargain of Europe. Where else can you go where a cup of tea and a car wash is included with a fill-up?

Roberta Sotonoff is a freelance travel writer.

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Malta From page 1

In the coastal villages the fishermen still go out to sea in the small boats or "luzzu", painted with eyes on the front to ward off evil—a custom retained from 1400 B.C. when the Phoenicians made the island a regular trade route stop-over.

Most who have heard of Malta ask, of course, about The Falcon. Native Maltese tend to wince at the mention of it.

The Maltese Falcon of history is not a lead artifact from Hollywood. It was the token yearly rental paid to

In 1964, Malta became an independent republic. The stamp of British speech and law is still evident—English is one of two official languages, the Maltese parliament is based on the British, the Maltese lira is still called "the pound" by every shopkeeper, and the occasional tavern will still serve warm English beer.

But unlike other territories I have visited after the British trundled their empire elsewhere, Malta is uniquely—may, insistently—its own sort of place.

Somehow this island nation has managed to take bits from 5000 years of cross currents, invasions, and rude awakenings and turn it all into a mosaic of beauty and zest.

This is a country that is 80 percent Catholic, but the Almighty is referred to as "Allah." In a language that is primarily Arabic, the alphabet is written European style. The word for "good evening" is "bonswa" (Napoleon lives!), and

the word for "thank you" is "grazzi," said the same way you would say it on the Via Veneto in Rome. "Good morning," on the other hand, is "I ghodwa i-tajba," and "please," is "yekk joghgbok."

Listening to Maltese (for most newcomers it is impossible at first to pronounce the language with its multiple Xs and Qs and its consonants all in a row) you almost think you understand what is being said. There is the faint echo of speech mutated through the ages but still with an oddly familiar ring.

"It's Dutch!" exclaimed a traveling companion in sudden certainty.

"No, we are dominantly a Latin culture," a Maltese explained kindly. "You can tell. We move our hands when we speak."

If you go to Malta, don't go for the beaches or resorts. They do have them (Hollywood, The Falcon aside, has taken to filming pirate epics there), and you can simmer oo sand in the summer. But it would be a waste. There are better beaches elsewhere, on islands where history is little more than a grass skirt and a native carving in a cave.

In Malta, you can track history through every side street from neolithic temples to Norman castles to 16th-century palaces to 20th-century jazz clubs overlooking the harbor. You can drink cappuccino in the main square of Valletta while Queen Victoria glowers in marble majesty over your café table.

Maybe you'll step across the street to the Caffé Cordina, a coffee-house cum politico meeting place where the conversation in at least four languages has the yeastiness and flavor of freshly baked bread. Or wander up Republic street to the Grand Master's Palace for amour, mpestries and, sometimes, parliament.

You can book a show in the 16th-century Manoel-theater, or hang out at a hip wine bar over on St. Julian's Bay.

You might take the half-hour ferry ride to Gozo for Calyso's cave, a neolithic temple or two, or—even better—the bustle of that island's capital, Victoria, where you can catch a guitar player in the square while you watch a fishmonger taking bids on a seething bin of octopus. (Oddly, Gozo seems to be a mecca for locals who have emigrated to America to work and then returned home, much the richer and very house proud.)

You can drive or bus from Valletta to a nearby village to catch a festival or visit a catacomb. Maltese buses are owned by their drivers and you get the feeling that if you really want to go off route down that small lane, the Maltese driver will oblige.

My favorite Maltese moments had to be on the evening we drove along the sea coast in the setting sun to the village of Rabat for the festival of the Feast of St. Joseph.

The Maltese have a passion for feasts, and as a

In Malta, you can track history through every side street from neolithic temples to Norman castles to 16th-century palaces to 20th-century jazz clubs overlooking the harbor.

Charles V of Spain, Holy Roman Emperor, by the Knights of the Order of St. John who arrived in 1530 to occupy the islands.

The Knights, driven out of Rhodes by the invading Ottoman Turks, came to Malta determined to defend it against the infidels at all costs. To do this they built the golden, fortified city of Valletta overlooking the Grand Harbour, thus moving the capital from the medieval hillside town of Mdina where the Spanish aristocrats lived (and still live) in isolated splendor.

The Knights of Malta stayed successfully in residence for 270 years, beating back the Turkish armada in the great siege of 1565. They adorned their new city with the architecture and art of the Renaissance, calling in as chief planner a colleague of Michelangelo. Mostly made up of younger sons of European nobility from backgrounds of wealth and pride, the Order built palaces called "auberges" for each of its eight different "langues", or national brotherhoods. (The English "langue" was subsequently suppressed after Henry VIII quarreled with the Pope.)

The vast, glittering, if slightly overwrought Co-Cathedral of St. John is perhaps the Order's mightiest monument, with two of Caravaggio's hangings on its walls.

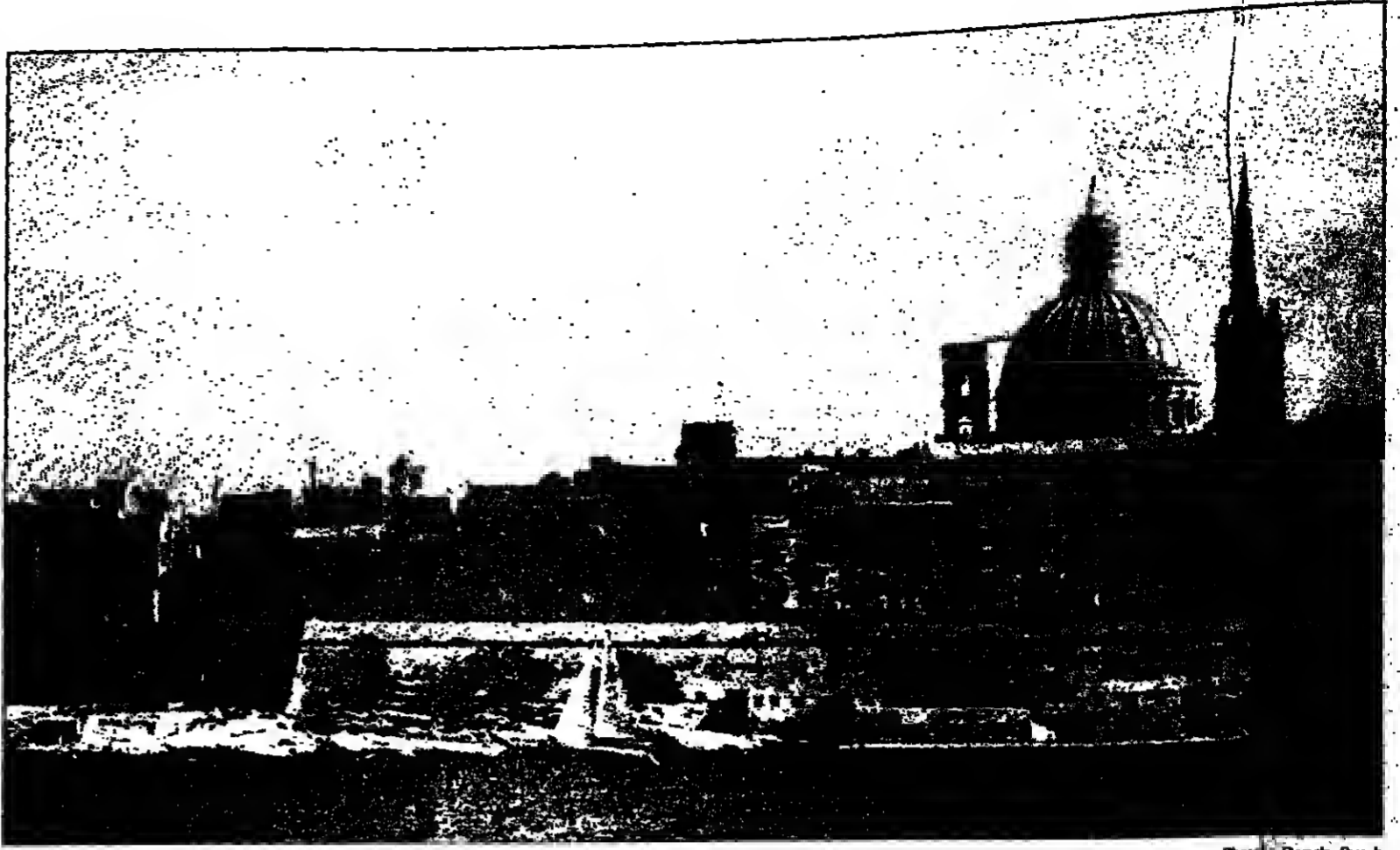
Pegged from the time of the Crusades to tend the sick and wounded, the Knights did so with a grandeur peculiarly their own. Hospital patients were addressed as "M'Lord" and were served food on silver and gold platters. Many thought it decadent. During almost three centuries of stern rule which later slipped into over-ripe lassitude, the Knights invited not one Maltese to join the Order.

Finally, in 1798, a rakish French-Corsican en route to conquer Egypt was invited in by the native Maltese to rid themselves of the Knights and their autocratic ways. Napoleon, a chancy guest-ruler at best, turned out to be more interested in looting churches than in mediating laws. The French were turfed out in short order by Lord Nelson and the British who blockaded the harbor and moved in for 160 years of peaceful rule.

Malta has many heroes. Napoleon Bonaparte is not one of them. Nor, for that matter, is Humphrey Bogart.

The Maltese take heroism seriously. Embossed on the national flag is the George Cross, Britain's highest decoration for civilian gallantry. It was awarded to every Maltese by George VI after the island stood firm under waves of German and Italian bombing during World War II, more concentrated bombing than in any other theater of war.

Malta survived against starvation and siege, as it had for centuries, and this time provided a base for the Allies to cut the vital line of supply ships from Italy to Rommel's campaign in North Africa.



The vast, glittering cathedral overlooks the Grande Harbour of Valletta, Malta.

Catholic country they have a plethora of saints. Every home is open on feast days and the candlelit church is full. The sacred statue of the saint of the day is carried through the throngs on the shoulders of priests wearing cassocks the color of the surrounding Mediterranean sea.

As I was pushing through the crowd in Rabat that evening, my canvas safari hat lifted off my head in the breeze and landed as if directed by doppler onto the head of a small boy riding on his father's shoulders. He clutched the hat with both hands, his face a study of delight.

"Grazzi, grazzi!" he called to the stam of St. Joseph which, at that moment, was bobbing by on its

wooden platform held aloft by the marching priests. For him—and for me—the miracle of Malta was clearly at work in its wondrous, ancient way.

Dorothy Storck is a Chicago freelance writer.

SNAPSHOT Shed Light on the Subject

By Carl and Ann Purcell

Copley News Service

After the sun goes down most pictures require the use of flash. The technology of modern cameras with fast lenses and high-speed film has made a flash unnecessary in many instances. There are times, however, when supplementary light is needed.

The photography enthusiast should be aware that the advent of automation with electronic flash has made flash pictures much easier to take than in the past. This is most clearly evident with the very popular point-and-shoot cameras. These use electronic flash indoors or out and automatically compute exposure for the amateur. Outside flash in sunlight serves to fill in the dark shadows. With these types of cameras, the flash units are integrated into the cameras, and it is not necessary for the photographer to even think about the fact that he is using flash.

More sophisticated photographers tend to avoid the use of flash, partly because they believe it creates an artificial quality in their pictures and partly because they don't feel comfortable with light they can't see and evaluate through their viewfinder.

To some extent, we share these feelings and understand the desire of many photographers to retain the sense of reality that is conveyed with available light. As professional photographers, however, it has been necessary for us to have the option of a flash to cope with night or indoor settings where the light level is inadequate for photography.

The standard 35 mm camera is equipped with a hot shoe on the top. This is a slot with electrical contacts designed for holding the electronic flash unit. The flash is triggered when the picture is taken. Most flash units utilize a built-in light sensor to set the exposure automatically. This works on the principle that the light travels from the flash to the subject and back to the sensor on the unit, controlling the duration of the light to provide the precise exposure for the film.

One of the perennial problems with flash photography comes from the flash unit being mounted directly on the camera. This often results in a distracting shadow cast on the wall behind the subject, not to mention the flat quality of the lighting. There can also be a problem of "red eye" where the retina of a person's eye reflects the light from the flash directly back to the film plane.

Fortunately, these problems can be overcome by using the flash off the camera with a coil connecting cord. The flash should be held up and off to one side, the light directed toward the subject. Under these circumstances, the automatic exposure feature will still work as long as the off-camera flash is about the same distance from the subject as the camera.

The photographer should be aware that flash can only cover a limited area in a picture. In a large, dimly lit room or outside at night, the person or subject will be properly exposed, but the background will be completely black. This distracting effect does not exist when a wall is reasonably close behind the subject.

The light from electronic flash tends to be rather harsh, and this can be softened by bouncing the light against a white surface so that it reflects back on the subject. Many flash units are equipped with tilting heads so they can be directed at any convenient surface. (Remember that for color film, the surface must be white.) Photographers familiar with flash techniques often carry white sheets or



Natural light casts a flattering glow on human subjects.

large squares of white cardboard for bouncing light. Some electronic flash units incorporate a tiny fill light that is used in combination with the main bounce light.

The most important goal in flash photography is to make your pictures look as if they were taken without flash. This can best be achieved by blending the flash skillfully with existing light. Be aware of both the natural light reading and flash exposure when using this combination of light sources.

In practice, we find that it helps to set a higher ISO rating on the flash than is recommended for the color film being used so that the artificial light does not dominate the photograph and overpower the natural light. For instance, you might set the flash unit at ISO 100 when using Kodachrome 64. You can only determine the best rating by making some test shots.

It is obvious that some form of flash is an important tool for the photographer. It can extend the range of your picture-taking into new times and new places.

Carl and Ann Purcell are America's leading travel writing/photography team.

Malta Travel Information. When to Go: Malta is pleasant all year around, with warm weather and sunny Mediterranean winters. Where to Stay: Malta has a range of accommodation from one of the most luxurious hotels to simple guest houses. The Malta Travel Information brochure provides details on these and other travel services.

مكتبة الرحمة

Think it out before coming 'home'

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



De ar Ruthie, I am a Palestinian American - born in Umm el-Fahm - who has lived in the US since the 1960s. Though well educated and well off (I owned an engineering consulting firm), with an American wife and four children, I am still unable to be absorbed fully in the American melting pot.

Last year, I took my first visit to this "homeland" (whether you call it Israel, Palestine, or the Holy Land), and I immediately fell in love with that soil. My question is: Is there room for me and my wife to return to Umm el-Fahm? Or get some part-time professorship at Israeli or Palestinian universities? Or, perhaps, perform engineering consulting services in Israel? How do the Israeli laws apply in our case? What about the status of our children? Can we own land? Pining Palestinian Fairfax, Virginia

Dear PP,
For details about your legal status and job opportunities, you need to contact the Israeli Consulate and other relevant authorities.

But technical details are only a minuscule part of what such a move for you and your wife would entail. If, after 30-some financially fruitful years in the US, you still feel "lumpy" where the melting pot is concerned, imagine what it would take for your wife to feel at home in Umm el-Fahm. And the soil, which so struck your fancy during vacation, could look quite different once you're ensconced on it.

Before undertaking such a major upheaval, you would do well to take your wife on a few extended trips to the "homeland" for serious examination. You may be more absorbed in American culture than you think. You may also be more absorbed in fantasy than reality.

Dear Ruthie,
I am the father of a 14-year-old who is unable to deal with disappointment. My wife says he will grow out of it, but she has been

saying this since he was two. I keep trying to figure out ways to ease potentially explosive situations, with little success. (The other day, for example, when an imminent teachers' strike was called off at the last minute, my son was so furious about having to go to school, that he became verbally abusive toward us.) I think he needs to see a therapist, but he won't hear of it.

Frustrated Father
Somewhere in Israel

Dear FF,
Your attempt to "ease potentially explosive situations" is counter-productive. You should be helping your son to accept disappointment as an integral, unavoidable, part of life.

"Freaking out" at the prospect of his unhappiness conveys the opposite message. Shrugging a spiritual shoulder the next time a teachers' strike is canceled would stand both you and your son in better stead for other letdowns. Perhaps it is you who should consider therapy.

Dear Ruthie,
My children befriended the neighbor's dog, who is pregnant. I just discovered - to my dismay - that my neighbor promised a puppy from the impending litter to my kids. When I told them a dog is out of the question, they got indignant. After all, a "grown-up" promised them they could have one! I am quite annoyed at my neighbor for not having discussed this with me first. What do I do now?
Dog Duped
Petah Tikva

Dear DD,
You need not be annoyed with your neighbor, nor need you be manipulated by your children: The only "grown-ups" possessing a binding power-of-promise to your kids should be you and their other parent. If your kids are able to convince you to change your mind about the canine, so be it. If not, so be it too.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Professor with a genius for social unity

Israel Prize winner Yehuda Amir's life has been a struggle to unify the nation. Sue Fishkoff reports



Prof. Yehuda Amir (above), a promoter of integration, says that different ethnic groups will not necessarily become closer through physical contact alone; specific conditions must be present for that to happen.

FOR the past three decades, Bar-Ilan University psychology professor Yehuda Amir has worked against the tide of growing social divisiveness and individualism to promote what he believes is the original Zionist goal of a united people.

Social researcher, educational pioneer, founding chief of the IDF's research unit in behavioral sciences, founder and first director of Bar-Ilan University's Institute for Integration in the School System and Winston Institute for the Study of Prejudice, Amir has introduced programs promoting social integration into hundreds of schools, authored more than 100 scientific articles and books, and worked tirelessly to reduce conflict between ethnic and social groups.

Last May, he was awarded the 1995 Israel Prize for Psychological Research in recognition of his lifelong contribution to social integration. He was also named professor emeritus at Bar-Ilan, where he has been affiliated since the early '60s, serving as full professor in the psychology department since 1978.

In addition to his academic focus on ethnic and social integration, Amir stands as a personal example of the concepts he has tried to foster.

He has been for more than 30 years one of the few secular professors on Bar-Ilan's largely observant faculty, a point he has been proud to bring up to demonstrate the importance he places on promoting coexistence, particularly between religious and secular Jews.

Since early February, Amir has been confined to his Ramat Hasharon home, suffering from brain cancer. His wife Hemda, a clinical school sociologist who recently retired to assist her husband, provided much of the information for this interview.

Born to a religious family in Vienna in 1926, Amir fled Austria with his family in late 1938, arriving in Haifa in February 1939. He served in the Palmah during the War of Independence, received his BA from the Hebrew University and then went to New York in 1952, where he received his PhD in social psychology from New York University in 1958.

It was while researching his doctoral thesis at a Quaker summer camp in the US in 1956 that he developed his "social contact model," which colleagues today describe as his major theoretical contribution to the field of social and educational psychology.

Observing the interactions at the camp between students from different countries and ethnic backgrounds - including Jews,

Germans and Arabs - Amir realized that different groups will not necessarily become closer through physical contact alone; specific conditions must be present during that contact.

Some of those conditions include cooperation rather than competition, working toward a shared goal, meaningful and sustained interaction rather than superficial contact, and equal social status between the groups.

The model he developed from this research is now standard textbook material internationally.

Returning to Israel in 1959, Amir went to work for the IDF, becoming one of the key figures in the creation of the army's psychology research unit. When Bar-Ilan University was established three years later, Amir and several of his colleagues moved to the new university, where he remained for the rest of his professional career.

Amir was always animated by the early Labor Zionist vision of

an Israeli society that would unite disparate Jewish groups into one national community, Hemda says. He further believed it was too late to wait until military service brought young people from different backgrounds together into the social melting pot. Integration had to begin in the early school years.

Amir disagreed strongly with the early Israeli educational system's tracking program, which separated out gifted and poor students, and organized schools according to geographic neighborhood.

During Ramat Hasharon's first experiments with integrated schools nearly 20 years ago, Amir headed the public committee that argued with wealthy parents who didn't want their children in the same classes with less well-off youngsters.

"He told them we are one nation, and this will benefit all our children," Hemda recalls. "Yehuda believed that better teachers would be needed to

teach integrated classes, and that would benefit all the students. He was very unhappy at the trend he saw taking place in Israeli society and Israeli schools the past few years, with the extreme individualist emphasis. He was so happy to get the Israel Prize, because it signified to him that the idea of integration, of making one nation out of the various ethnic groups in Israel, is still considered important."

Amir did not believe that contact can bring all conflicting groups closer. For example, Hemda says, he believed it could backfire in the case of secular and haredi Jews. But contact was the best method, he believed, for integrating children of other ethnic backgrounds in Israel - from Sephardic to Ashkenazi, Arab to Jew, Russians to Ethiopians, poor to wealthy, and he devoted much of the past decade to that aim.

The Education Ministry appointed him 12 years ago as

chairman of the public committee for examining reform in the education system. Through his institutes and public work, he has developed and implemented teaching techniques used in Israeli classrooms to foster integration.

Amir's colleagues describe him as a man whose personality reflected his professional goals. "For him, intergroup relations wasn't just an academic topic," says Dr. Rahej Ben-Ari, director of the Institute for Social Integration and a former doctoral student of Amir's. "His whole personality portrayed his theoretical ideas. He was intensely human, a very kind man. You don't see that very often in academic life."

Amir's quiet sense of humor often deflected conflicts in the ego-ridden world of academia. He was regularly tapped to head the general assemblies of the Israel Psychological Association, because of his rare ability to unite the various factions.

"He wasn't a joke-teller, but he always knew how to reduce tension in a room by looking at the humorous side of a situation," recalls Prof. Joseph Schwarzwald of Bar-Ilan's psychology department.

But Amir was perhaps most respected in his field for his emphasis on applied social research.

"When he approached his research, he always asked himself how it could help improve intergroup relations in Israel," Schwarzwald continues. "He really dedicated himself to helping Israelis, especially within the educational system, live and cope with diversity. You don't find that many people in the academy who emphasize basic and applied research to that degree."

Until the past few months, Amir kept up his tireless pace, organizing and attending international conferences, serving on the executive committees of World ORT and ORT Israel, and working on the government's "30 Settlements" educational project in Tiberias and Yehud.

Even during his second series of aggressive chemotherapy, when he was so weak he could hardly walk, he would get in the car to drive to Tiberias for committee meetings. Hemda says, "He believed his work would make a difference," Hemda says. "His hopes and dreams for a united Israel remain undiminished," she says.

"We'd sometimes sit with friends who came here from America years ago, and they'd say, this is not the Israel we made aliyah for."

"Yehuda never accepted that. He always replied, we have to fight to make it that Israel."

America's new homeless: White and middle-class

AS evening falls, the tribe gathers by the river, to forage for smoke and drink and food. There is safety in numbers.

Wearing studded dog collars, their Mohawks dyed orange and green, their lips and nipples pierced, the tribe lives a hard-core life on the streets, an existence largely unknown in the mainstream America they have rejected as inane, materialist and hypocritical.

They call themselves "gutter punks," and they are a new kind of homeless: white, middle-class, often bright, politically militant and without homes by choice. Not many of them are older than 21.

Their appearance and their lifestyle seem like a nightmare to many of their parents and much of society, as if all the promise of youth in America had been turned inside out, producing these nihilistic, angry, ironic spawn, all dressed in black, the end result perhaps of decades of family disintegration, suburban boredom and national cynicism.

America has always had its rebels, and the gutter punks today can be seen as the latest in a long

line, from the anarchist hobos to the Beats and the hippies.

But where the hippies may have espoused peace and love and a return to the land, with drugs viewed as a path to enlightenment, today's punks seem different. Their world, is dark, urban, dangerous, and many of the ones who drink and do drugs do not want visions; they want to black out.

"They're just kids. But they're kids who stick safety pins through their eyebrows and sniff paint and live in squats and scare the tourists, because most people don't understand what the hell these kids are talking about," said Tommy Ross, who runs a drop-in center in New Orleans, where the gutter punks come to wash and stash their bundles.

"They'll tell you, 'Hey man, I'm living off the waste of America. I don't need your money. And I don't need you.' I hear that one all the time."

"I only live for three reasons," said Eric, 20, sturring and stumbling around New Orleans's French Quarter with his friends on a recent night.

"To drink, to fight, to screw.

That's what I am, an escape artist, man."

Yet earlier, in the cold winter sunshine on "Hippie Hill," an amphitheater of stone steps that looks out on the quarter's picturesque Jackson Square, Becca, 18, sober and sweet-faced and carrying a sleepy puppy in her arms, said, "People are afraid of us, but we're not the ones who are scary."

None of the advocates for the homeless or the gutter punks themselves knows the size of the tribe, and "tribe" is a word many of them use to describe the subculture, complete with ritualistic piercing, tattooing and adornment.

New Orleans, a winter haven for the tribe, probably supported 500 or so homeless gutter punks during Mardi Gras in February.



'Gutter punks' tramping along Rampart Street in the French Quarter of New Orleans. (Michael Williamson / Washington Post)

'The yuppie world means nothing'

HOMELESS advocates suggest that many left because they were abused. That may be true, said Tommy Ross, who runs the drop-in center in New Orleans. "But what is abuse? What is a good home and a bad home? Some kids come from completely awful situations. Dad's drunk and mom's a hooker, that sort of thing. But others tell me, 'My parents never really loved me.' Or 'They were too busy with the careers to care about me.'"

"Paul Rigsby, a private investigator who searches out under-age punks for their families, said he believes most punks come from well-to-do homes. "They're the smart kids in school, high IQs, scholarships. But at some point along the line, our educational system failed them. For some reason, they just pack up and leave."

"The world of the yuppies means nothing to me," said Stone, 18 and covered in patches, itching from scabies. "I live on the streets. I'm a survivor and I drink to have visions, and to escape the nightmare of my life. What was the nightmare of his life? Stone started ahead and then said, "My parents are rich people who have never performed a noble gesture in their lives." To prove himself noble, Stone took the 72 cents he had and handed it to a tourist. "I'm free," he said. "That proves it."

On the wall of Kaldi's coffee shop, a mother has hung a flier describing her 16-year-old daughter, street-named Otto, and asking her to call home: her little brother misses her. "She was a great kid, smart, straight As," said her mom. "It's depressing to think she could be anywhere now, anywhere in the whole world."

plenty of half-full cups of beer and booze to be picked up off of the curb or trash cans or table tops, a practice known as "ground scoring," the urban punkster's equivalent of living off the land. (The Washington Post)

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Thursday, March 28, 1996

8

Gonen rumored to follow Harlev as El Al head

HAIM SHAPIRO

FOLLOWING the announcement on Tuesday that El Al Director-General Ravi Harlev had tendered his resignation, rumors were rife in aviation and tourism circles that his successor would be Tourism Ministry Director-General Eli Gonen.

Gonen, however, refused to comment on the rumors, saying he had not yet received any official offers. "I have no plans. No one has offered me the job," he said yesterday.

He added he took it as a compliment that his name was mentioned for the post - in recognition of the great advances made in the tourism industry during the past year.

However, he added that if he were to get the job, it would not mean he would automatically put forward the interests of the tourist industry. In the past, there was considerable tension between El Al and the Tourism Ministry, with

the former favoring close control and limitations on charter flights and the latter pressing for open skies and a liberal air policy.

The policies pushed for by El Al were not Harlev's personal interests, Gonen said, adding that each sector had its own priorities.

"El Al and tourism have some joint interests, and they also have some interests which are not common," Gonen said.

Meanwhile, Harlev has refused to comment on his move or to elaborate on his letter to El Al board chairman Yossi Ciechanover, the board and the transport and finance ministers which cited the government's failure to press forward with the privatization of the national airline as the reason for his resignation.

Harlev said in his letter that it would become increasingly difficult for El Al to compete on the international aviation scene and to develop it if it was not privatized.

Bank Leumi profits rise 30% in '95

Net profits increase 32% in fourth quarter

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

"The aim of the policy is to encourage customers to increase business activity."

Maor said Bank Leumi is expected to lose commission income of NIS 35m.-NIS 45m. if implementation of the policy is not accompanied by a rise in customer activity.

The 1995 results were partly offset by a 73.4% growth in provisions for doubtful debts to NIS 367.2m.

The rise was mainly due to the agriculture sector's debts and also to an increase in debts of the private sector resulting from the fall in the value of securities on the capital market.

Operating and other income fell 3.4% to NIS 1.85 billion, while operating and other expenses increased 0.2% to NIS 2.24b. The bank attributed the regis-

tered growth in earnings to an 8.2% rise in credit to the public and an 8.3% increase in deposits to the public.

As a result, profits from financing operations before provisions for doubtful debts increased 17.8% to NIS 2.97b.

Subsidiary and affiliated companies in Israel contributed NIS 344.1m., compared with NIS 419.4m. in 1994.

The drop was blamed mainly on the rise in provisions for doubtful debts.

Foreign subsidiaries' contribution increased to NIS 60m. from NIS 61.2m.

Maor said she is unhappy with Banque Leumi France, which suffered losses of FF 13.7m., compared with profits of FF 8.6m. in 1994.

Total assets remained virtually unchanged at NIS 112.7b. from NIS 112.4b.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

The Postal Authority's first catalog of Israeli philatelic souvenir sheets and display cards has been published with full-color photographs of all such commemoratives issued since 1981. Produced on chromo paper, the catalog begins with a souvenir sheet marking a Jewish War Veterans conference and a French-Israeli conference on Rashi and ends with one in memory of Leonard Bernstein and another marking the world stamp exhibition in Singapore. It can be ordered by all subscribers to the Philatelic Services at the Philatelic Services office in Jaffa or by calling (03) 512-3905. *Judy Siegel*

More foreign currency reforms announced

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

IN keeping with the government's policy of slowly easing foreign currency restraints, the Bank of Israel yesterday announced several reforms - including raising the yearly ceiling on credit card purchases of foreign goods from \$1,500 to \$5,000.

The bank also raised the amount of money Israelis are entitled to bring into the country from \$3,000 to \$5,000, and lifted restrictions that forbid purchasing timesharing arrangements directly from overseas agents.

The purchases, which can not exceed \$15,000, will remain under the bank's supervision.

Foreigners wishing to invest here will no longer be required to open local accounts, and stock purchases will now also be considered as investments. The bank's foreign currency division has not decided to lift the limitations it imposes on foreign companies whose investments are managed by Israeli ones.

The bank also announced a proposal for offering banking services through post offices.

Banks wishing to be able to grant the post offices with the right to accept cash and check deposits, as well as to dispense money.

Israel electric
The Israel Electric Corporation
(hereafter "the Corporation")
wishes to purchase goods/ services, as detailed below:

Tender No.	Description	Cost (non-returnable) of tender documents, incl. VAT
545325	Uprights for electric pylons	NIS 936

Last date for submitting bids: April 21, 1996, 11 a.m.

Preconditions:

- The provision of a guarantee, in the form of a personal check, for 5% of the total bid, with the exception of those bids for which there is no technical data alone (Stage A).
- Participation in the tender is also subject to fulfilling the preconditions, detailed in the Mandatory Tender Regulations, 1993, Part 6(a), 2.3 (i.e., registration as required by law, compliance with applicable standards and specifications, and the holding of the permits, for businesses and public bodies).

The tender documents may be obtained at the Market Research and Tenders Dept., 150 Pal-Yam, Haifa, Sunday to Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon. The documents will be provided upon submitting a receipt confirming payment (non-returnable) at a branch of the Postal Bank. The fee is non-returnable.

Payment slips for this fee are obtainable at the above address (Tel. 04-3615454). Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused at the offices of the Market Research and Tenders Dept. at the above address, or at the Sales Unit, 90 Rishon LeZion, Tel Aviv, Ashdod Building, Entrance B, Floor 2, Tel. 03-5654679 or 03-5654645. Sundays, Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and placed in Tenders Box No. 1 at the Pal-Yam building, Haifa, at the above address, by the last date for submitting bids as stated above. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

NOTE: In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers in accordance with the Tenders Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and the Obligation for Commercial Cooperation).

The Corporation likewise reserves the right to conduct negotiations where permitted by law.

During the Holidays, the offices of the Corporation will be closed, April 3 - April 12, inclusive.

מכרזים לרכישת חשמל

'Natural gas imports from Saudis may soon be a reality'

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE peace process may ultimately result in Israel purchasing gas from Saudi Arabia. Oil Refineries general manager Moshe Farajun said yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference, Farajun criticized the government's ongoing negotiations to import natural gas from Egypt, explaining that in the future it may be possible to import from Saudi Arabia at a cheaper cost.

"While negotiating with Egypt, it is important to remember that an option must be left for the entrance of other partners into the agreement, like Saudi Arabia," he said.

"We are the ideal natural buyer for Saudi Arabia," said Farajun, who called on the government not to hasten to sign an agreement with Egypt.

"In my opinion, the proposal to negotiate with Egypt is out of political motives," he said. "People want to say they have achieved another agreement with the Egyptians."

Oil Refineries yesterday reported a rise in net profits to NIS 124 million from NIS 94m. in 1994. The results include losses of NIS 155m. from the refineries sector and profits of NIS 265m. in the petrochemical sector.

The company said the refinery sector suffered losses as a result of the unrealistic prices which are determined by the government and also the drop in refinery business worldwide.

The two refineries processed 11.7 million tons of crude petroleum last year, compared with 12.1 million in 1994.

The company said its 1996 work program is based on the process of 12 million tons of crude oil.

In the petrochemical sector, Gadiv Petrochemical Industries reported a net profit of NIS 165m., while Carmel Olefins contributed NIS 100m. to total earnings.

Leumi: Morgan-Stanley will consult us on sale of non-financial holdings

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

US INVESTMENT bank Morgan-Stanley will consult Bank Leumi on the sale of its non-financial holdings. Leumi chairman of the board Eitan Raff announced yesterday.

Raff said the two banks are expected to sign an agreement during the next few days.

According to the government's banking reforms, Leumi is required to reduce its holdings in non-financial assets to a maximum of 25% by the end of 1997.

As a result, Leumi will have reduced its holdings in Africa Israel Investments, Af-Shar, Leumi Insurance Holdings (which

owns Migdal) and Ichud Insurance Agency.

"We are preparing for the reduction," Raff said. "We have established an internal team to manage the sale and to receive advice from Morgan Stanley. The sale is considered large on a local scale and also an international scale."

Raff emphasized the hardships involved in reducing the bank's 50% stake in Africa Israel.

"Reducing our holdings in Africa-Israel is not a simple task," Raff said. "We have a timetable to sell by the end of December 1996. All potential buyers know that we

have to meet this deadline and are taking advantage of this situation.

"Furthermore, the capital market today is not attractive to sell the company. It is difficult to go ahead with the sales and not hurt the shareholders, which in the case of Bank Leumi is the government," he said.

Raff said Assicurazioni Generali, Italy's largest insurer, has expressed an interest in significantly increasing its share in the company, but so far there are no concrete negotiations with Leumi.

He said Generali representatives visited Israel this week to take part in Migdal Insurance's board of directors meeting.

Israel Airports Authority
Ben-Gurion International Airport (BGIA)

Notice to Departing Passengers

BGIA Now Has Two Terminals - Terminal 1 and Terminal 2

Terminal 2 for international flights (attached to the domestic-flights terminal) will begin operating Sunday, March 31, 1996.

Airlines with flights leaving from Terminal 2:
Transavia (HV) - Amsterdam
Air Holland (GG) - Amsterdam
Corse Air (CRL) - Paris
Air Charter (SF) - Paris

Notice to those accompanying departing passengers!
Only passengers with plane tickets will be allowed into the security checks area and the ticket counters.

Follow the signs from the entrance to the airport building!
The management of the BGIA wishes all passengers a safe and pleasant trip.

PRIME מְרִימַת פְּדוּת
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 26.3.96
Purchase Price: 108.19
Redemption Price: 107.54

לְמַדְרֵי פִּדְוּת כִּסְפֵי זָרָא

THE SUPREME COURT
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Supreme Court Building will be closed to visitors Wednesday, April 3, to Wednesday, April 10.

Judge Alon Gilon
Registrar, the Supreme Court

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
FOR A SPECIAL OFFER
FOR BUYING UNITS AT A REDUCED PRICE
OF LAHAK MUTUAL FUNDS - MANAGEMENT
OF AMERICA - ISRAEL LTD. MUTUAL FUNDS

From April 1, 1996 to May 30, 1996, the units of the LAHAK - COSMOS fund will be offered at a unit price without a supplemental rate.

Orders for buying units can be given through all branches of the America-Israel Bank Ltd. or through members of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

This notice is not an invitation to purchase these units.

Fund Manager: Lahak - America-Israel Ltd. Mutual Funds Management

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OF AMERICA-ISRAEL LTD.

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Weaker shekel lifts shares

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

STOCKS rose yesterday as the dollar strengthened against the shekel, prompting arbitrageurs to push up stocks traded in Tel Aviv and New York.

"If Teva trades at \$40 here, for example, that's about NIS 120," said Keith Phillips, analyst at the Israel desk of Societe General Strass Turmull.

"If the shekel devalues, a purchase of the same stock might require, say, NIS 123, prompting trades to bump up the Tel Aviv price," he said.

A weaker shekel also helps exporters, whose products become less expensive for overseas buyers. They also benefit because they pay salaries and costs in shekels and earn revenue in dollars.

The most active share on the exchange, Eltro Electronic Industries Ltd., was up one percent at about NIS 6 million.

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. advanced 3.5%. Other stocks that traded in both cities include Koor Industries Ltd., up 2%; Tadiran Ltd., up 1 3/4%; and Elbit Ltd., up 2 1/4%.

The Maof Index was up 0.65% to 205.27, while the Two-Sided Index added 0.64% to 195.64.

The shekel traded as low as 3.14 per dollar, finishing at 3.128, against 3.108 on Tuesday.

Some NIS 50m. of shares traded across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, which is about the month's average. (Bloomberg)

FTSE closes higher

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - British shares closed mostly higher after two days of losses, helped by steadier gilts and led by gains in British Aerospace and heavily-weighted oil stocks.

The advance was pared by the close as US markets turned mixed after comments from Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan doused hopes for lower US interest rates. The FTSE 100 closed 11.5 points higher at 3,672.4.

TOKYO - The Nikkei stock average closed at a 21-month high, buoyed by fresh demand from institutional investors and persistent buying by foreigners.

Brokers said sentiment was improving because of prospects for economic recovery and progress with the budget in parliament.

The Nikkei average index ended up 315.21 points, or 1.50 percent to 21,329.98.

HONG KONG - Stocks closed solidly higher, supported by late buying on hopes of positive blue-chip earnings reports today. The blue-chip Hang Seng index jumped 82.10 points to end at the day high of 11,066.57.

SYDNEY - The share market spent another aimless day to end just lower, with turnover boosted by options-related trade ahead of expiries today but with little other action.

The All Ordinaries Index closed 1.9 points lower at 2,259.7.

Dow follows bonds lower

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The Dow Jones industrial average lost more than 50 points yesterday following a sharp drop in the bond market.

At 3:01 p.m. EST, the Dow was down 51.30 points at 5,619.30, which activated the following a sharp drop in the bond market.

Until the US switches its clocks for Daylight Savings Time, the Dow Jones results published in the paper will be from 3 p.m. New York time.

SHAMGAR

(Continued from Page 1) in light of "intelligence information on the plans by certain Jews to attack the late prime minister."

The police and GSS saw no reason to wait for the commission to complete its inquiry before making changes, primarily because of the immediate threat of another assassination attempt against a senior government leader, according to the sources.

Though he would not speculate on what the recommendations would be, Hekher University law professor Mirdechal Krenznitz noted that "it is past instances when commissions of inquiry have issued warning letters, and the commission has rarely found that the warnings had no basis."

The commission can recommend either disciplinary or legal action against individuals, Krenznitz added.

The three-member commission - former Supreme Court president Meir Shamgar, Zvi Zamir, and Ariel Rozen-Zvi - issued the warning letters in December. The government formed the commission on November 8, four days after Rabin's murder.

The commission warned Gillon that he was likely to be found guilty of "not properly overseeing the organization, operations, intelligence analysis, training, preparedness, and activity of the Protection Department."

In particular, the warning stated, Gillon was responsible for the failure of the VIP Protection Unit, which is part of the Protection Department, to take action

steps to improve VIP security have already been taken, security sources said.

Intelligence information that Gillon received about an attack on Rabin was not properly checked out and shared with other officers in the GSS and police, the warning letter stated.

Similar allegations of poor organization and failure to take action in light of intelligence information about a pending attack on Rabin were lodged against the Protection Department chief in the warning letter he received.

The VIP Protection Unit chief, the Operations Unit chief, and the commander of the GSS squad at the scene were all found to have failed in their particular duties on the night of the assassination.

The commander of the GSS Noo-Arab Affairs Department officer was also issued a warning letter.

"[He] did not check to make sure that information he gathered on plans for an attack by certain Jews was passed on as it should have been to the police," according to the letter.

After being issued the warning letters, Shoval and the six GSS officers spent several weeks defending themselves before the commission.

The report is more than 350 pages long and includes about 100 pages of classified material which will not be released to the public, the Justice Ministry spokeswoman said.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Table with columns for Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading, listing various stocks and their prices.

Table with columns for Key Representative Rates, INFL STOCK MARKETS, New York market indexes, and Other stock market indexes.

Table with columns for Dollar crossrates (US), Labor rates, Foreign financial data courtesy of Commstock Trading Ltd., INFL COMMODITIES AND METALS, US commodities, London commodities, Spot market metals (US), New York metal futures, and London metal futures.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Table with columns for International Stock Prices, listing various international stocks and their prices.

Vertical text on the left edge of the page, including 'SS BRIEFS' and 'ign current announced'.

NEWS

No withdrawal from Hebron today

ISRAEL will not leave Hebron, as it was scheduled to today, until the Palestinians rein in terrorists, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said yesterday.

He also suggested that final status talks, set to begin in May, may be delayed unless Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat cracks down harder on Islamic militants.

"When the blood of our people is spilling in the streets, we cannot negotiate, or redeploy from Hebron, or consider the modalities of permanent status negotiations," Barak told the annual convention of the International Press Institute, which drew 300 editors and media executives from 85 countries.

"I hope the situation will be created where we can reopen full-scale negotiations with the Palestinians, but at least partially

it is up to them," he said. "There is no justification for dealing with a political entity if it can't exert the most basic attribute of a political entity - namely the monopoly of the use of power and the holding of weapons."

Barak said he believed Arafat needed to do more to rein in Islamic militants, but conceded that the Palestinians have rounded up hundreds of Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists.

He said Israel is willing to open a dialogue with the Islamic fundamentalists if they abandon terrorism, participate in elections, and settle disputes "in air-conditioned rooms and not through the pulling of triggers."

"If the Palestinian people will elect one of them to sit on top over there, which I don't believe [will happen], we will talk to him," he said.

He said he is "not very optimistic" about Israel-Syria talks resuming soon, but that they could get back on track after the elections.

"I believe we should find a way to resume discussions with the Syrians. It might take a few weeks. It might come just after our elections. I believe we should renew this," he said.

In her speech at the conference, PA Council member Hanan Ashrawi said the closure has caused anger and resentment.

"You cannot... get locked in this self-perpetuating cycle of violence and reprisal," Ashrawi said. "What we need is the courage and vision to break out of the cycle... and deal with the causes."

She said outside help is needed to break the impasse.

"We need neutral intervention and not just the Americans," Ashrawi said. (AP)

IDF redeployment in Hebron likely only after elections

IT'S no surprise the IDF is still in Hebron today. Defense sources say the troops are likely to remain there until at least after Pessah, even though it is a violation of the Oslo accords.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has conditioned the withdrawal upon the Palestinians capturing Mohammed Deif, the mastermind of the latest bus bombings, and changing the clauses in the Palestine Covenant calling for Israel's destruction. These were conditions which could hardly be met by the midnight deadline.

Most technical excuses are no longer valid, since the IDF has already removed much of its equipment from the areas it is to vacate in Hebron, and the bypass road is practically complete. In fact, IDF commanders and defense officials say the redeployment probably could take place in

about six hours.

Israel is using Hebron as a lever to exert more pressure on the Palestinian Authority to crack down on Islamic militants. But Israel's hesitation equally derives from its fears that handing over 90 percent of the city, a Hamas hotbed, to the Palestinians would make the entire country more vulnerable to attacks.

In the race for prime minister, Peres has sidelined his visionary image and appears to have taken up Yitzhak Rabin's "Mr. Security" role. Since another terrorist attack could give Binyamin Netanyahu the edge, it is questionable whether Peres will order the withdrawal from Hebron before the May 29 elections.

However, Peres may want to set

facts on the ground to contend with all post-election scenarios. And Palestinians argue that having PA President Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Police on the ground in Hebron would give him an edge in controlling Islamic militants there.

As far as the Palestinians are concerned, they see the failure to redeploy from Hebron as a broken promise which will only cause a further erosion of Palestinian support for the peace process.

"We are not prepared to pay the invoice for Peres's election. They are making a big mistake and the support of the population for the peace process is decreasing daily," said Jamil Tarifi, PA minister of civil affairs.

Still, at this stage, the government is more likely to listen to the pleas to stay put from Jewish settlers in Hebron and Kiryat Arba.



Florence mayor Mario Primicerio Stanos stands next to the replica statue of David which was unveiled at the Citadel in Jerusalem yesterday. (Brian Heffler)

Hebron Jews wonder about their future

SINCE the signing of Oslo 2 in September, Hebron's 450 Jews have largely gauged time against one date, March 28.

On this day, the IDF was supposed to redeploy from the city. On this day, Hebron was supposed to go the way of Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Kalkilya, Ramallah, and Bethlehem. The day was etched in the minds of Hebron's settlement activists, who prefaced their protests - including furious lobbying efforts - with words like "only 20 more days."

Then the bombs blew up in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and it turned out that two of the suicide bombers came from the Hebron area. And everything changed... at least for the time being.

"I feel as if we have been given a renewed lease on life," said Ori Shtruck, who lives in the Abraham Avinu compound. "There is mercy."

Under the Oslo accords, the IDF was to pull back to certain defined areas in Hebron today, giving the Palestinian Authority control over much of the city.

The IDF, until the bomb went off outside Dizengoff Center on March 4, was busy bringing in bulletproof guard-posts to the

Jewish compounds, putting up new roadblocks around the Machpela Cave and the Jewish neighborhoods, and negotiating with the Jews to have them replace the glass in their living room windows with bulletproof glass.

This all stopped. Instead, settlement spokesman David Wilder said, the IDF began a "tremendous tightening of security."

Hebron's settlers maintain that, for all intents and purposes, the IDF effectively withdrew from much of Hebron after the PA Council elections on January 20.

Technically, the IDF was still in control of the whole city, Wilder said, but the situation on the ground was different. Settlers reported hearing round after round of gunfire in the city every night and complained that the IDF was not doing anything about it.

"Now the IDF has set up roadblocks," Wilder said. "Soldiers stop people in the street. They check identification cards. They act as they used to act."

The settlers are hoping, praying, that the situation continues. They calculate that it is not in Shimon

Peres's political interest to leave the city now. They figure that he doesn't want to risk a disaster accompanying the pullout, and does not want to alienate the hard-core voters to whom Hebron is dear.

This is what they want to believe. But neither Shtruck nor Wilder will say unequivocally that there will be no pullout until after the elections. And both believe the IDF is capable of redeploying in a couple hours, without giving the settlers advance warning.

"They don't have to tell us if they are going to leave," Shtruck said. "They don't see us as a partner."

"They could very well pull out without telling us," Wilder said. "Peres might say he won't do it to stop any protest. He knows that if they pull out here, it would not go smoothly like everywhere else. People here will not just sit home and wave good-bye."

Not everyone agrees. Ya'acov Ben-Taria is a physician who moved his family of seven to Hebron from Elkana two years ago.

"If my brothers decide to abandon me, what can I do," he said. "Jibril Rajoub's men will be 100 meters from my home. If that is not abandonment, what is?"

Hizbullah leader visits 'troops' in south Lebanon

HIZBULLAH leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has reportedly visited members of the organization's fighting arm in south Lebanon to praise them for their recent wave of attacks on the IDF and South Lebanese Army.

News of the secret visit was announced yesterday on Hizbullah radio.

The reported visit was seen by some observers as a gesture of

defiance by the Hizbullah leader, designed to demonstrate his and the organization's ability to move about freely in south Lebanon without fear of any IDF reprisals.

Hizbullah radio said Nasrallah had praised the men for "striking fear into the hearts of the Zionist occupiers."

Israel, he reportedly said, had retreated from its threats of retaliation because of "it doesn't have the opportunity to hit us," not because of US pressure.

"The Americans want to impose a new equation in the south whereby all resistance activities would cease in return for Israel not launching a major operation, while our land remains occupied and our brothers and sisters are held hostage in their prisons," Nasrallah was quoted as saying.

There and then, the participants at the meeting, as well as Otis himself, donated a total of \$10,000, which I brought back to Israel with me and have given to the authorities to aid the terror attack victims," said Gronberg.

"Otis intends to continue the campaign through the auspices of his chain of newspapers and radio stations, as well as in broadcasts on television in the US," said Gronberg.

WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy, warmer.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Weather
Amsterdam	44	51	cloudy
Berlin	51	52	cloudy
Buenos Aires	15	22	cloudy
Calcutta	10	15	cloudy
Chicago	31	35	cloudy
Copenhagen	41	43	cloudy
Helsinki	38	41	cloudy
London	41	43	cloudy
Los Angeles	51	53	cloudy
Madrid	48	51	cloudy
Moscow	38	41	cloudy
New York	41	43	cloudy
Paris	41	43	cloudy
Rome	41	43	cloudy
Sydney	17	22	cloudy
Tokyo	48	51	cloudy
Zurich	41	43	cloudy

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ten of spades, ace of hearts, eight of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

US Christian group aids terror victims

THE leader of an American-based global Christian organization has launched an aid campaign for Israeli victims of terror.

The move began as a spontaneous gesture by George Otis, head of the Pentecostal High Adventure Ministries, during a recent meeting of the movement's leadership in Los Angeles.

The meeting took place shortly after the Dizengoff suicide attack and Otis, who has been a good and very close friend of Israel for many years, said something had to be done other than offering prayers and sending condolences.

"Peres might say he won't do it to stop any protest. He knows that if they pull out here, it would not go smoothly like everywhere else. People here will not just sit home and wave good-bye."

Not everyone agrees. Ya'acov Ben-Taria is a physician who moved his family of seven to Hebron from Elkana two years ago.

"If my brothers decide to abandon me, what can I do," he said. "Jibril Rajoub's men will be 100 meters from my home. If that is not abandonment, what is?"

Tracing Missing People

NETZ 03-613 27 33

24 HOURS

Jewish University Leadership Scholars presents

The Joseph and Siera Gutnick Jerusalem 3000 Lecture

The State of the Nation

The Jewish People Face the Future

with Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz

Greetings from Hon. Ehud Olmert, MK Mayor of Jerusalem

The King David Hotel

Sunday, April 7th, 1996 at 8:15 pm

Entrance 40 NIS - Program in English

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invites you to travel with the experts, Geographical Tours and Neot Hakikar, on three specially programmed English speaking tours.

ACTIVE HOLIDAY IN SINAI

The world's greatest concentration of wild animals - giant herds numbering hundreds of thousands - can be found in the Savannah of East Africa. We shall tour the foothills of the 5,200 m., snow-covered Mt. Kenya, visit the Samburu game reserve, home to unusual giraffes and zebras, see the millions of flamingoes on Lake Nakuru, and then continue south to the Masai Mara Reserve, with its monkeys, hippopotami and lions. We'll meet members of various local tribes, including nomads and Bantu farmers.

The accommodation is excellent.

The dates: Departure Monday, July 15; return Monday, July 22

The price: US\$1930 per person (with double room occupancy)

Includes: return flight by El Al, use of special safari vehicles with viewing platform, 7 nights in first-class hotels and safari lodges, full board (breakfast only during two stays in Nairobi), experienced tour guide English-speaking Zoologist, Uzi Meitoom. All entrance fees.

KENYA: 8-DAY SAFARI

MOROCCAN JEWISH HERITAGE

Participants in this tour will experience the rich culture and folklore of the Jewish community, in an Islamic country. We travel countrywide, from the sands of the Sahara, with its green oases, to the Berber castles, and the villages high in the Atlas Mountains, to the cities of Casablanca, Rabat, Meknes, Fez, Marrakech, and more. We visit Medinah, where the Rambam sought refuge, the Jewish quarter of Fez, the Oukalmeden ski site, the Cascas d'Ouzoud waterfalls, the palace of King Hassan II, and many other sites.

The dates: Departure, Wednesday, June 5; return June 17

The price: US\$2,112 per person (with double room occupancy)

Includes: international return flights by Air Malta, 12 nights half-board accommodation in 5 star hotels or superior tourist accommodation in the Sahara region, travel in air-conditioned coaches, all entrance fees, services of experienced English-speaking guide, and local guides.

PLEASE NOTE - there is no travel on Shabbat, and fish and vegetarian food is available.

For reservations and further information, contact The Jerusalem Post Travel Club

Tel. 02-6221679, Fax. 02-236161

Sun. - Thur., 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. - ask for Tova or Nicole.

call the... 177-100-272

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